

[19 April, 2001]

RAJYA SABHA

(b) if so, the action taken thereon in view of the high cost of land, agricultural implements, etc.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) and (b) Requests for enhancement of the rehabilitation assistance to freed bonded labourers had been received from various State Governments including the Government of Andhra Pradesh. Based on the consultations held with the representatives of the State Governments, rehabilitation assistance has been enhanced from Rs.10,000/- to Rs.20,000/- per freed bonded labourer with effect from May, 2000.

#### Child labour

3721. SHRI K.M. SAIFULLAH: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the State with highest number of child labour;

(b) the action taken by Central Government to ask the States to launch an intensive drive to identify and rehabilitate all the child labourers; and

(c) in what way Government monitor the programmes for rehabilitation measures of the child labourers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) Authentic information on child labour is generated during the decennial census. As per the 1991 census, Andhra Pradesh has the maximum number of working children.

(b) A communique dated 19/02/2000 has been sent to Chief Ministers of all States, *inter-alia*, requesting them to take decisive and convergent action to release children from work and secure their rehabilitation by pooling resources of various developmental programmes, initiating steps for setting up a State Level Authority with representatives from all concerned Departments for coordinated action towards the elimination of child labour and gearing up the enforcement machinery under the Child Labour Prohibition and Regulation Act, 1986, Factories Act, Mines Act, Beedi & Cigar

Workers (Conditions of Employment) Act, etc.

(c) Government has been implementing two schemes for rehabilitation of child labour, namely the scheme of National Child Labour Projects (NCLPs) and the scheme of Grants-in-aid to Voluntary Organisations. Performance of the National Child Labour Projects is being monitored through receipt of periodic reports and returns of project activities, inspections undertaken at the Central, State and District level and independent evaluations. A Central Monitoring Committee under the Chairmanship of Union Labour Secretary has also been set up for the overall supervision, monitoring and evaluation of the NCLPs.

**Consumer Price Index for Industrial workers**

3722. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers during the last six months, month-wise;

(b) how these compare with corresponding figures in 1999-2000; and

(c) what has been the purchasing power of rupee during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) to (c) The Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers for the last six months from September, 2000 to February, 2001 alongwith the Index for the corresponding period of the year 1999-2000 and value of rupee with base year 1982 is enclosed in the statement.